

citizens of Greater Des Moines, the State of Iowa, and United States of America.

First and foremost, thank you for the 20 years of service to our country as a member of the United States Army. And, thank you for your excellent work in representing Central Iowa in the United States House of Representatives over the many years. You and your dedicated staff have been a tremendous asset to our community.

Your leadership and efforts in securing federal funding for transportation projects, quality of life priorities, and other economic development initiatives have played a critical role in the rapid growth and prosperity of the Greater Des Moines Region. We cannot thank you enough for being such an important partner in these efforts.

And thank you for helping accommodate our group and taking the time to address our participants during our annual visits to Washington, D.C. We appreciate the great work in helping set up meetings, coordinating schedules, lining up speakers, and advising and meeting with trip participants.

Again, thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Greater Des Moines Partnership in our nation's capital. We truly appreciate your leadership and all the work you have done on issues important to Central Iowa's business community. We hope for, and wish you, the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

—Jay Byers, Chief Executive Officer of Greater Des Moines Partnership
—Eugene Meyer, President of Greater Des Moines Partnership

We residents of your hometown—Lamoni, Decatur County, Iowa—are privileged to join in paying tribute to you for your years of service to our community, our state, and our country. We can't list all of your achievements, but can mention a few:

Active sports player in High School
Farmer
Pilot in the skies of Vietnam
Senate President—Iowa Legislature
Father and Grandfather
President of Farmers' Coop
Member of U. S. House of Representatives
Problem solver for people immersed in "Red Tape"
Pastor of Lamoni Community of Christ
Devoted Husband
Thank you for your many years of selfless service.

—Lamoni Lions Club and the Town of Lamoni

Leonard Boswell has worked for his country, his state, and his community throughout a lifetime of public service. Lieutenant Colonel Boswell had a distinguished 20-year career in the United States Army. His service in the Iowa Senate, as President of that body from 1993 to 1996, was where he first took the lessons he brought from his military life, and brought them to bear in the political arena. Those lessons included focus on the mission at hand, and get the job done. Trust your team, and let them know they can trust you. And perhaps most importantly, leave no comrade behind. In 1997, Leonard brought those values to work for Iowans, and their neighbors across the country, in the United States House of Representatives. His work on transportation issues has changed the face of Iowa. But it has been his advocacy for his fellow veterans and their families, that has changed the heart of Iowa.

We are grateful to his wife, Dody, and his family, for sharing him with us these many years. We are proud of the work he has done, and we welcome him home with open arms.

—Sue Dvorsky, Chair of the Iowa Democratic Party

CONGRESSMAN BOSWELL: All Iowans stop from what they are doing today to say thank

you to Representative Leonard Boswell who has represented us well during his tenure as U.S. House Representative. We thank him for his leadership and courage dealing with issues of importance to the people of Iowa.

—Mary L. Madison

LEONARD: It is with gratitude that we thank you for being our Congressional Representative in the 90's and good friend in support of the issues that matter in middle Iowa. You always treated us with respect and desire to make things better for Iowans.

Thank you for your support of the Affordable Care Act. And we also thank you for always meeting with our delegation of Orthopedic Surgeons when we came to visit you each spring when Bob was on the Academy's Board of Councilors. We also appreciate your strong support for Israel, and your personal stories of facing the tragedies after the Holocaust. And thank you for serving in the US Army for many years. And also thank you for your support for women's reproductive rights and health care issues. I knew that you would always listen to us at Planned Parenthood and would do as much as you could to support us in Congress. And that was not an easy task these past few years.

All the best to you and Dody. We know that you will always be there for a good chat on issues and will always stand up for Iowans no matter what!!

—Debbie and Bob Gitchell, Ames

CONGRESSMAN BOSWELL: Your campaign this fall was full of energy, which is representative of your years of support. It is a privilege to honor your many years of serving Iowans both locally and in Washington, DC.

As advocates for working on behalf of vulnerable Iowans, we have found you to be loyal to these issues. I am appreciative of your willingness to listen to concerns from constituents and advocacy groups. I was especially delighted when you provided your support and signed on to the Social Work Reinvestment Act upon listening to our issues.

You have dedicated your time to working on behalf of Iowans and assuring policies were in place to support your constituents. Thank you Congressman Boswell for your years of service!

—Kelli Soyer, National Association of Social Workers, Iowa Chapter

REMEMBERING AN AMERICAN HERO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) is recognized for 19 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOSAR. Today, I'm here to remember the sacrifice of an American hero and the bravery of those who served with him.

Two years ago this Saturday, our Nation lost one of our own who was serving to protect our country by securing the Arizona-Mexico border. On December 14, Border Agents Brian Terry, William Castano, Gabriel Fragoza, and Timothy Keller began patrolling an area west of the town of Rio Rico, Arizona, tasked with interdicting violent criminals sneaking into the United States.

At 11 p.m. on the following day, December 15, the team was alerted to five suspects in their interdiction zone.

After identifying themselves, they were fired upon and Agent Terry was struck and killed. The men who fought beside him that night were heroic in their efforts to provide aid and to protect Agent Brian Terry.

After the dust settled, that horrific night's details were brought to light about our government's role in supplying weapons found at the scene of the crime. Through Operation Fast and Furious—a fundamentally flawed gunrunning operation ran by the U.S. Department of Justice—weapons like those found at the scene nearly 2 years ago were allowed to be purchased by middlemen and passed along to some of the most dangerous cartels in Mexico without proper law enforcement interdiction and justice.

Subsequently, numerous hearings have been held to demand answers as to how this program came to be, who authorized it, and who knew about it. My goals are simple: justice and accountability, not just for Brian Terry, who lost his life, and the brave men serving him that night, but also justice for the hundreds of Mexicans who also lost their lives from the weapons from the Fast and Furious scheme.

As I close, please join me in a moment of silence for those lives who have been lost and the loved ones that they leave behind.

For my part, I will continue to demand answers from the Department of Justice. I will continue to stress the need for bipartisan support for getting those answers. I look to leadership not to relent. I also look to the Hispanic Caucus to break their silence and to take up this issue affecting everyone in Mexico.

Finally, I will not rest until we are certain that justice is served and that this atrocity can never happen again.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to be here representing the Progressive Caucus and talking about our fiscal situation now that I think a lot of people out there are worrying about, confused about, don't know how it's really going to affect them, wondering what the heck we're doing. Sometimes Members of Congress who aren't part of the negotiations are wondering what's going on too. But what I want to talk about today are the things that are at stake for ordinary people in our country, the things that are on people's minds as we deal with these economic issues that face our country.

I am Congresswoman JANICE SCHAKOWSKY, and I represent a district, a